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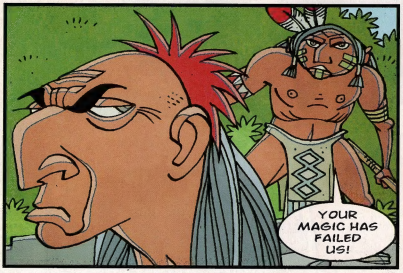
Fortnightly ▸ No 166 ▸ £1.30 ▸ 6 to 19 Oct 1999

EARTH SPIRITS

Script: **LEW STRINGER** • Art: **MICK McMAHON** • Lettering: **ELITTA FELL**



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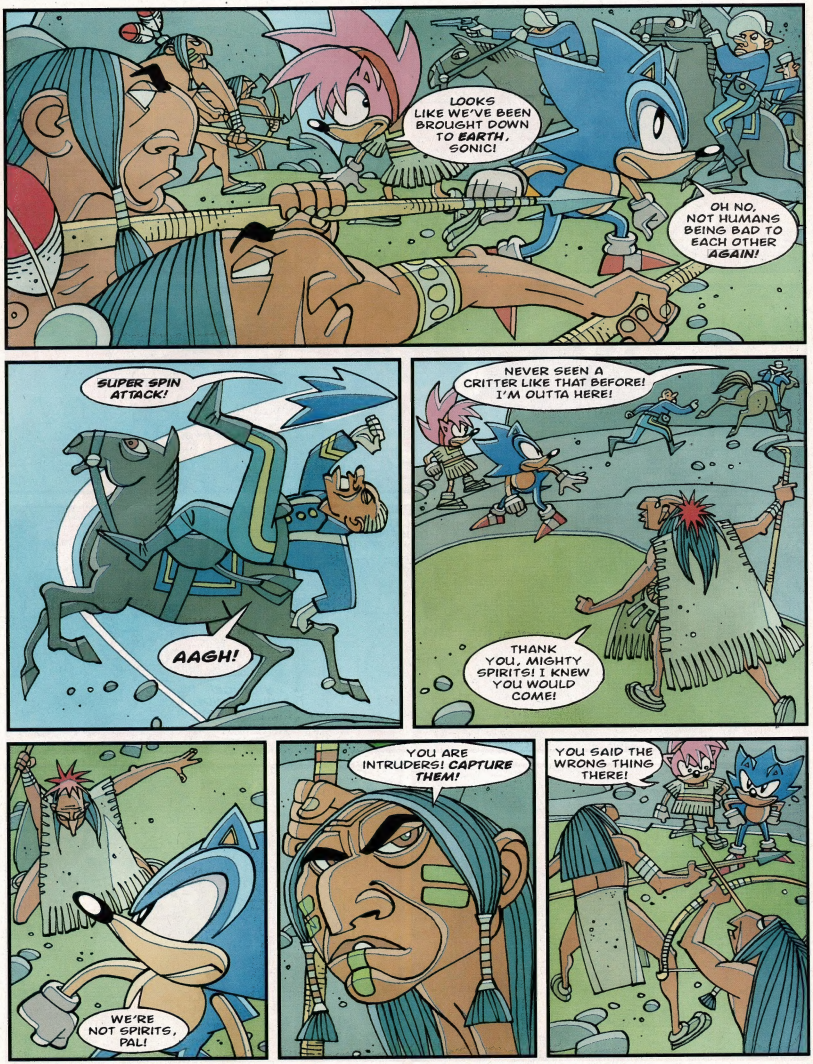
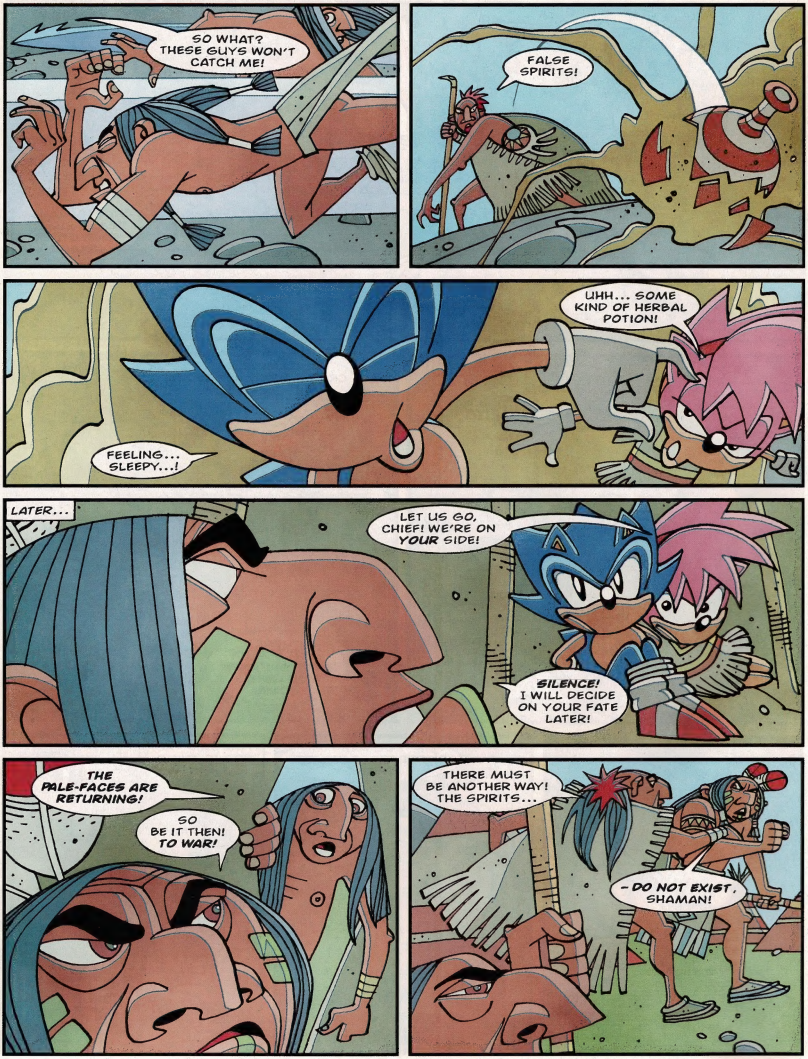
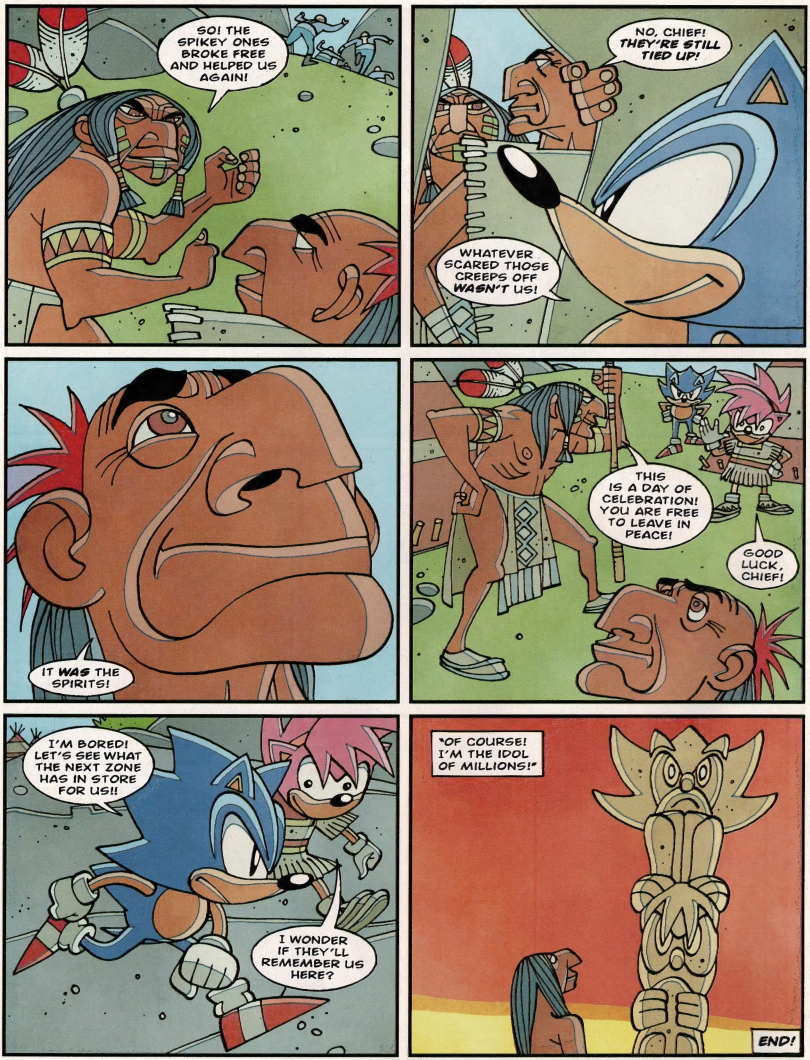
THESE ARE BAD DAYS FOR ALL OF US, SHAMAN, AND CHIEF THUNDERCLOUD IS A PROUD LEADER!
I KNOW, MOON RIVER.
THE SOLDIERS ARE TO BLAME! THEY DO NOT RESPECT THE LAND, AND TAKE IT FROM US BY FORCE!
THEY REGARD US AS IGNORANT SAVAGES, BECAUSE OUR BELIEFS ARE DIFFERENT TO THEIR OWN!
WHY DO THEY NOT ACCEPT THAT?
I HAVE CALLED UPON THE SPIRITS TO GUIDE US, BUT THEY HAVE NOT RESPONDED.
PERHAPS CHIEF THUNDERCLOUD IS RIGHT! PERHAPS THE SOLDIERS DESERVE TO BE PUNISHED!
NO, MOON RIVER! IT WOULD LEAD TO MORE VIOLENCE AND TOO MANY TRIBES HAVE ALREADY SUFFERED! WE MUST TRY ANOTHER WAY!

THE DAWN OF A NEW DAY...
THRDUM-THRDUM-THRDUM!
THAT NOISE... NO!
YE-HAAA! SEE THEM INJUNS RUN!
SPIRITS OF THE EARTH PROTECT US!
EMPTY WORDS, SHAMAN! WAR IS THE ONLY LANGUAGE NOW!
SKRRAKK!
WHAT IN TARNATION--?


LOOKS LIKE WE'VE BEEN BROUGHT DOWN TO EARTH, SONIC!
OH NO, NOT HUMANS BEING BAD TO EACH OTHER AGAIN!
SUPER SPIN ATTACK!
AAGH!
NEVER SEEN A CRITTER LIKE THAT BEFORE! I'M OUTTA HERE!
THANK YOU, MIGHTY SPIRITS! I KNEW YOU WOULD COME!
WE'RE NOT SPIRITS, PAL!
YOU ARE INTRUDERS! CAPTURE THEM!
YOU SAID THE WRONG THING THERE!


SO WHAT? THESE GUYS WON'T CATCH ME!
FALSE SPIRITS!
UHH... SOME KIND OF HERBAL POTION!
FEELING... SLEEPY...!
LATER...
LET US GO, CHIEF! WE'RE ON YOUR SIDE!
SILENCE! I WILL DECIDE ON YOUR FATE LATER!
THE PALE-FACES ARE RETURNING!
SO BE IT THEN! TO WAR!
THERE MUST BE ANOTHER WAY! THE SPIRITS...
- DO NOT EXIST, SHAMAN!

TAKE NO PRISONERS!
SUDDENLY...
WAHHH!
AIEEE!
WHOOSHH!
THIS PLACE IS WEIRD! LET'S GET OUTTA HERE FOR GOOD!


SO! THE SPIKEY ONES BROKE FREE AND HELPED US AGAIN!
NO, CHIEF! THEY'RE STILL TIED UP!
WHATEVER SCARED THOSE CREEPS OFF WASN'T US!
IT WAS THE SPIRITS!
THIS IS A DAY OF CELEBRATION! YOU ARE FREE TO LEAVE IN PEACE!
GOOD LUCK, CHIEF!
I'M BORED! LET'S SEE WHAT THE NEXT ZONE HAS IN STORE FOR US!!
I WONDER IF THEY'LL REMEMBER US HERE?
"OF COURSE! I'M THE IDOL OF MILLIONS!"
END!

NEXT ISSUE: SONIC AND AMY ENTER THE SUPERZONE...

BERNARD MATTHEWS
DINOSAURS
IT LOOKS REMARKABLY LIKE A TIME-MACHINE TO ME, ZIGGY
A TEA-TIME-MACHINE, ACTUALLY FRIENDS! I'M PROFESSOR EGGHEAD AND THIS IS MY ASSISTANT, WANDA
WHAT'S THAT TERRY?!
WE'RE HERE TO FIND OUT WHAT DINOSAURS REALLY ATE! YOU SIR! CAN YOU TELL US?
CHOMP!
WELL... THAT WAS FINE FOR A STARTER! NOW, YOU TWO HOLD STILL!
ERR... WHY DON'T YOU TRY OUR LUNCH INSTEAD?!
CHOMP
CHOMP!
DON'T LOOK NOW, BUT I THINK HENRY IS STILL HUNGRY!
GOOD THINKING WANDA!
NEW SHAPES
BERNARD MATTHEWS
DINOSAURS
INCLUDING PTERODACTYL
400g

THE INFAMOUS CAPTAIN PLUNDER AND HIS CREW...
KNUCKLES™
The GHOST SHIP
NEW STORY
Part 1
Script: NIGEL KITCHING
Art: NIGEL DOBBYN
Lettering: ELITTA FELL
IT'S NO GOOD, CAP'N! WE'VE GOT TO TURN BACK!
STAY AT YOUR POST, YOU SCURVY SWAB!
WE'VE COME TOO FAR TO TURN TAIL AN' RUN!
CAP'N... LOOK!

AYE, FILCH... I SEE IT! THE GHOST SHIP OF TANTARAGOR!
BY CRIKEY, THE LEGENDS BE TRUE... IT REALLY DO EXIST!
KRR-R-AAK!
CAP'N, THE MAST!
WE'RE GOING DOWN!
LAND HO, CAP'N!
LAND? DON'T TALK RUBBISH, LAD, EE CAN'T SEE LAND FROM THIS HEIGHT!
WAIT...
I DON'T BELIEVE IT... THE FLOATING ISLAND!

ON THE SURFACE OF THE FLOATING ISLAND IS THE MUSHROOM HILL ZONE... THE CURRENT DWELLING PLACE FOR THE EMERALD HILL FOLK OF MOBIUS.
NO, SORRY, KNUCKLES, BUT I CAN'T HELP YOU...
THIS IS ANCIENT TECHNOLOGY... VERY COMPLICATED AND TOTALLY ALIEN TO ME.
TRUTH IS, I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND IT!
CLINK!
YOU WERE THE ONE I WAS SURE COULD HELP REPAIR MY EMERALD CHAMBER, PORKER!
RATS, I'LL NEVER GET ALL THE FLOATING ISLAND'S SYSTEMS BACK ON LINE!*
*AFTER A LITTLE ACCIDENT IN THE EMERALD CHAMBER. - Megadroid.
I DON'T HAVE ANY DIAGRAMS FOR THIS ANCIENT EQUIPMENT... I USUALLY JUST GUESS!
IF ONLY I COULD REPAIR THE ISLAND'S FORCE FIELD... IF DOCTOR ROBOTNIK COMES LOOKING FOR THE EMERALD HILL FOLK...
TAKE IT EASY, KNUCKLES! ROBOTNIK HAS NO IDEA WE'RE HIDING OUT HERE!

I HAVE TO HAND IT TO YOU GUYS... YOU'VE BUILT QUITE A VILLAGE HERE.
KNUCKLES! A SHIP HAS LANDED ON THE FLOATING ISLAND... TO THE EAST OF THE VILLAGE!
ROBOTNIK? I'LL CHECK IT OUT!
PORKER... DO YOU WANT TO TAKE A LOOK?
ER, NO... MY DAYS AS AN ADVENTURER ARE OVER! ALL THAT STUFF WITH THE BROTHERHOOD OF METALLIX WAS TOO MUCH FOR ME!
OH, NO...

WELL, WELL, IF IT ISN'T KNUCKLES...
THIS BE GOOD FORTUNE INDEED, ME OLD MATE, 'CAUSE I BE NEEDING A LITTLE FAVOUR!
NEXT ISSUE: NEVER MAKE DEALS WITH A PIRATE!

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WILD WEST

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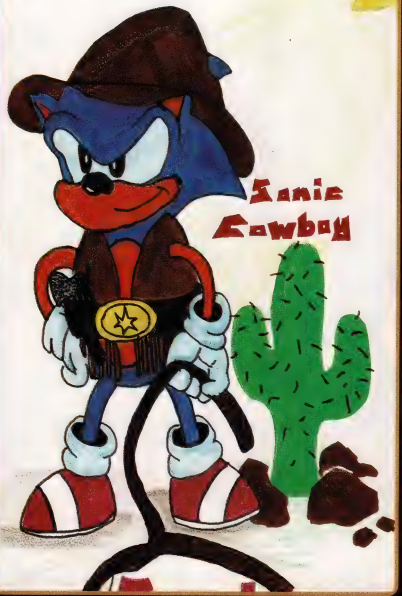

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Isle of Wight.
Sonic Digital
Watch Winner.**

For a few Knuckles more!

Frayed at the edges!

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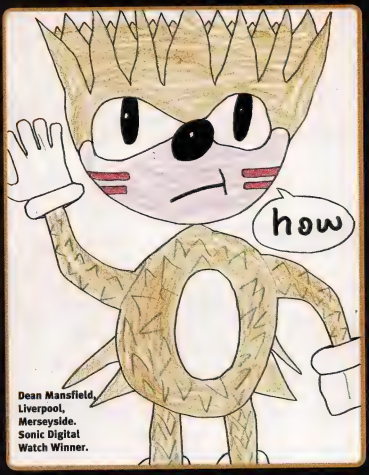

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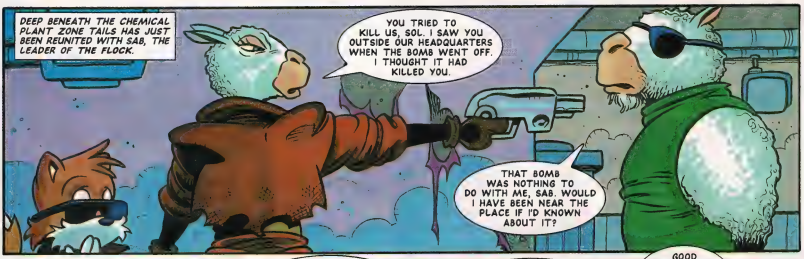
Tails in ZONERUNNER & THE BIG FREEZE PART 3

Script: MARK EYLES

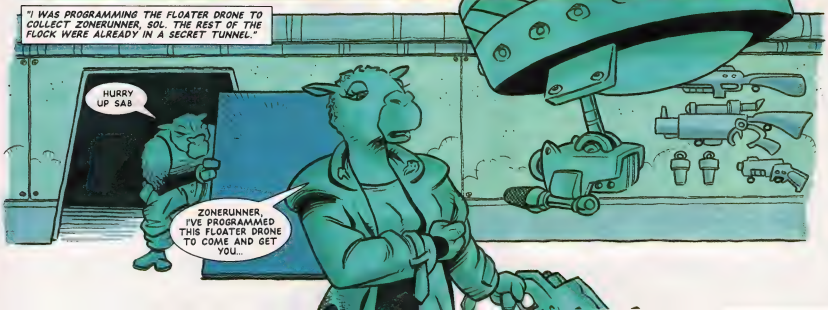
Art: ROBERTO CORONA & BRIAN WILLIAMSON

Lettering: STEVE POTTER


DEEP BENEATH THE CHEMICAL PLANT ZONE TAILS HAS JUST BEEN REUNITED WITH SAB, THE LEADER OF THE FLOCK.
YOU TRIED TO KILL US, SOL. I SAW YOU OUTSIDE OUR HEADQUARTERS WHEN THE BOMB WENT OFF. I THOUGHT IT HAD KILLED YOU.
THAT BOMB WAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME, SAB. WOULD I HAVE BEEN NEAR THE PLACE IF I'D KNOWN ABOUT IT?

WHAT CAN I SAY? I WAS COMING TO REJOIN THE FLOCK. I'M NOT GONNA WORK FOR NUTZAN BOLT ANY MORE.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, ZONERUNNER? YOU'RE A SHREWD JUDGE OF CHARACTER.
HUH... I AM? OH YES. WELL, I ...ER... BELIEVE HIM.

THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME, ZONERUNNER. WELCOME BACK, SOL.
GOOD TO BE BACK, SAB. NOW, HOW DID YOU ESCAPE FROM THAT BOMB?
ER... CAN'T YOU JUST CALL ME TAILS?


"I WAS PROGRAMMING THE FLOATER DRONE TO COLLECT ZONERUNNER, SOL. THE REST OF THE FLOCK WERE ALREADY IN A SECRET TUNNEL."
HURRY UP SAB
ZONERUNNER, I'VE PROGRAMMED THIS FLOATER DRONE TO COME AND GET YOU..

"THE FORCE OF THE EXPLOSION THREW ME INTO THE SECRET TUNNEL."
KERBOOM
AFTER THE EXPLOSION I SENT THE FLOATER DRONE TO GET ZONERUNNER. WE SEALED THE SECRET TUNNEL AND LEFT.
ENOUGH EXPLANATION. LET'S GET TO THE SURFACE.
I DON'T THINK I'M GOING TO BE MUCH HELP.
YOU HANDLED YOURSELF WELL WHEN THAT MOB CHASED US, ZONERUNNER.*
*SEE LAST EPISODE. - MEGADROID.
NUTZAN BOLT'S HOLED UP ON THE SURFACE. WE'LL GET YOU TO HIM, THEN YOU DO YOUR STUFF.
YOU MEAN LIKE RUN AWAY? BURY MYSELF IN THE SNOW? OFFER MY SERVICES AS A TARGET?
HA HA! I'M IMPRESSED, ZONERUNNER. NOT MANY PEOPLE COULD JOKE WHEN THEY WERE ON THEIR WAY TO ALMOST CERTAIN DEATH AT THE HANDS OF A PSYCHOPATHIC ROBOT.
EMERGENCY ELEVATOR TO SURFACE
THERE'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD KNOW, ZONERUNNER. NUTZAN BOLT'S MORE POWERFUL AND DANGEROUS THAN WHEN YOU LAST MET HIM.
HE'S BUILT HIMSELF AN INVULNERABLE NEW BODY OF LIVING ICE.
ER... I JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING IMPORTANT. YOU CARRY ON AND I'LL CATCH UP LATER.
HA HA! YOU CRACK ME UP!
NUTZAN BOLT IS IN THAT ICE CASTLE. WE WON'T HAVE ANY TROUBLE GETTING TO THE THRONE ROOM. I HAD THE FLOCK CHECK OUT OUR ROUTE EARLIER.
OH DEAR. COULDN'T WE TALK ABOUT OUR PLAN?
WHAT PLAN? WE'LL IMPROVISE!
THAT MAKES ME FEEL SO MUCH SAFER.

THE THRONE ROOM, DEEP WITHIN THE ICE CASTLE.
SO, YOU'VE BETRAYED ME, SOL FURIC. JUST LIKE A SHEEP TO FOLLOW THE FLOCK. HEH HEH. WHO'S THAT WITH YOU?
YOUR DOWNFALL NUTZAN BOLT.
DO YOUR STUFF ZONERUNNER. WE'LL COVER THE DOOR.
WHO'S THAT? I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING WITH THESE ON.
OH GOSH. UM. HELLO MR BOLT.
YOU'RE HERE AT LAST, ZONERUNNER. HEH HEH. YOU DESTROYED MY LAST BODY BUT MY NEW LIVING ICE ONE IS INVINCIBLE. HEH HEH.
SQUIRCH
ER... COULDN'T WE TALK ABOUT THIS?
HAAAAA!
OH CRUMBS!
JUMP, JUMP AS HIGH AS YOU CAN, YOU CAN'T ESCAPE ME I'M LIVE ICE NUTZAN. HEH HEH.
BUDAM
KZING
BUDAM
KZING
HEE HEE. BULLET PROOF!

YOU CAN'T STOP ME, BUT I CAN STOP YOU! HEH HEH.
LEAVE THEM ALONE, YOU BIG BULLY.
KZING
KZING
BUDAM
BUDAM
SAB! GET BACK!
YOUCH! DID YOU KNOW YOU HAD A HOT HEAD?
SMACK
UH, OH. I'M GLAD SONIC CAN'T SEE ME NOW!
NOW FOR YOU. HEH HEH.
I HAVE ABSOLUTE CONTROL OVER THE LIVING ICE. WITHOUT ME IT WOULD FALL APART. A BIT LIKE YOU'RE ABOUT TO DO. TEE HEE.
ANY LAST WORDS, ZONE-RUNNER?
COULD YOU CALL ME TAILS, NEARLY EVERYONE ELSE DOES, UM, GULP, DID.
NEXT ISSUE: TAIL'S END?

HALLOWE'EN TREATS

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SONIC & AMY

NIGHTMARES WITH LYCRA IN THE SUPER-HERO ZONE!

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STC 167 – ON SALE WEDNESDAY, 20 OCTOBER 1999

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

Disaster! PART 2

Script: NIGEL KITCHING
Art: RICHARD ELSON
Lettering: ELITTA FELL

IT'S FINALLY HAPPENED! DOCTOR ROBOTNIK HAS LAUNCHED HIS ULTIMATE WEAPON – THE DEATH EGG!*

AND NOW FULLY POWERED BY THE STOLEN MASTER EMERALD DOCTOR ROBOTNIK PREPARES TO EXACT HIS FINAL REVENGE ON SONIC – THE DESTRUCTION OF THE ENTIRE EMERALD HILL ZONE!

*FOR REAL THIS TIME, BOOMERS!

YOU WERE A FOOL TO TRY TO ATTACK ME HERE ON MY DEATH EGG, SONIC!

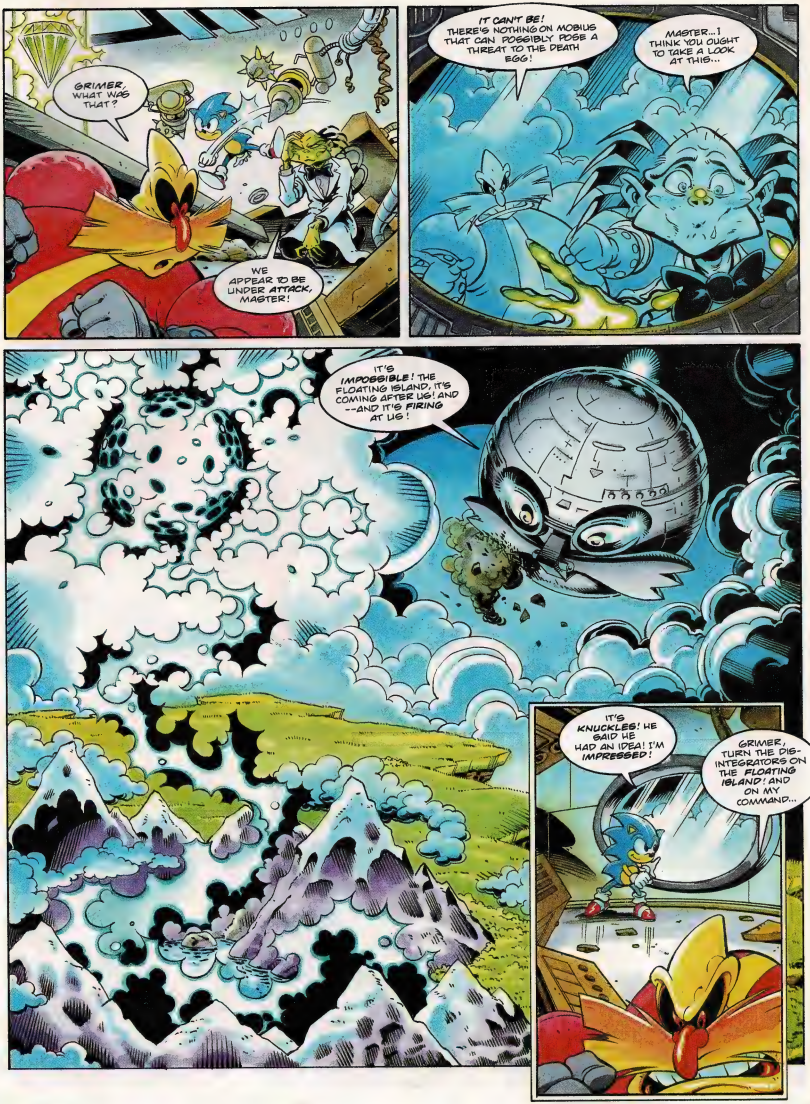
NOW YOU ARE MY PRISONER!

YOUR PRISONER? DREAM ON, LARDBELLY! I LOST MY WAY AND THESE TIN-HEADS HELPED ME FIND YOU, THAT'S ALL!

VERY FUNNY, RODENT!

STILL, I'M RATHER PLEASED THAT YOU'RE HERE... SO I CAN SHOW YOU JUST WHAT MY DEATH EGG IS CAPABLE OF!

GRIMER... LOCK THE TARGETING COMPUTERS ONTO THE EMERALD HILL ZONE AND POWER UP THE DISINTEGRATOR ARRAY!
AT ONCE, MASTER!
THE MASTER EMERALD...
LOCKED ON TARGET. DISINTEGRATOR WILL BE READY TO FIRE IN 10 SECONDS!
10 SECONDS
10 SECONDS... I'M GOING TO HAVE TO MOVE FAST! THAT'S MY SPECIALITY!
DISINTEGRATOR READY, MASTER!
THEN FIRE, YOU IDIOT, FIRE!
I'M NOT GOING TO MAKE IT! I'VE FAILED!
SKROOM!
WH...WHAT'S HAPPENING?


GRIMER, WHAT WAS THAT?
WE APPEAR TO BE UNDER ATTACK, MASTER!
IT CAN'T BE! THERE'S NOTHING ON MOBIUS THAT CAN POSSIBLY POSE A THREAT TO THE DEATH EGG!
MASTER...I THINK YOU OUGHT TO TAKE A LOOK AT THIS...
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE! THE FLOATING ISLAND, IT'S COMING AFTER US! AND --AND IT'S FIRING AT US!
IT'S KNUCKLES! HE SAID HE HAD AN IDEA! I'M IMPRESSED!
GRIMER, TURN THE DIS-INTEGRATORS ON THE FLOATING ISLAND! AND ON MY COMMAND...

...FIRE!
SSCHHKOOOOM!
DEEP INSIDE THE FLOATING ISLAND KNUCKLES FEELS THE SHOCK WAVES OF ROBOTNIK'S ASSAULT.
I HATE TO ATTACK WITH SONIC ON BOARD THAT THING... BUT THE POWER OF THE FLOATING ISLAND IS PLANET MOBIUS' ONLY CHANCE NOW!
WITHOUT THE MASTER EMERALD IT'S GOING TO TAKE TIME TO BUILD UP THE POWER FOR ANOTHER ATTACK...
I JUST HOPE I'M GOING TO LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO TRY IT!
KROOOM!
HAHAHA-HAAAH!
IT'S OVER, SONIC... THE FLOATING ISLAND IS FINISHED. KNUCKLES IS FINISHED... THE EMERALD HILL ZONE IS FINISHED!
YOU'RE ALL FINISHED!

YEAH? LET'S SEE HOW WELL YOU DO WITHOUT THE MASTER EMERALD TO POWER THIS THING!
THD!
GET HIM! WITHOUT THAT EMERALD THE DEATH EGG HAS NO POWER SOURCE!
IF YOU WANT THE EMERALD, YOU'LL HAVE TO GO THROUGH ME!
KRROOM!
WHOA!
ANOTHER HIT!
KRASSH!!
NOOO! THE MASTER EMERALD!

FZZZZAKK!
MAN, IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S ALL OVER FOR THE DEATH EGG!
BUT IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE I'M GOING TO BE AROUND TO CELEBRATE, 'CAUSE IT'S A LONG WAY DOWN!

BHOOM!
NEXT ISSUE: DOWN AND OUT!

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